

We claim:

1. A method for providing a telephone subscriber with call features associated with a home telephone line of the subscriber when the subscriber is at a remote telephone line, the  
5 method comprising the steps of:  
  
registering the subscriber as present at the remote telephone line in a first database accessible  
by a home switch that supports the home telephone line;  
  
10 receiving at the home switch an incoming call for the subscriber directed to a first telephone  
number of the home line;  
  
redirecting the incoming call to a second telephone number associated with the remote  
telephone line where the second telephone number is retrieved from a first record in the first  
15 database;  
  
receiving the redirected incoming call at a visiting switch that supports the remote telephone  
line;  
  
20 retrieving, by the visiting switch from a second record in a second database, a user call  
feature set that defines call features available to the subscriber at the subscriber's home  
telephone line;  
  
handling the incoming call at the visiting switch in accordance with the call features as  
25 determined by the retrieved user call feature set.
2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of registering comprises receiving  
a request from the remote telephone line to establish the presence of the subscriber at the  
remote telephone line, retrieving from the first database the subscriber's call feature set,  
30 storing the retrieved subscriber's call feature set in the second record in the second database  
where the second record includes the first and second telephone numbers.
3. The method according to claim 2 wherein the step of registering further comprises  
storing the second telephone number in the first record in the first database.

4. The method according to claim 3 wherein the second telephone number is obtained from calling line information data associated with a call placed from the remote telephone line as part of the request.

5

5. A method for providing a telephone subscriber with call features associated with a home telephone line of the subscriber when the subscriber is at a remote telephone line, the method comprising the steps of:

10 registering the subscriber as being present at the remote telephone line in a first database accessible by a home switch that supports the home telephone line;

receiving at a visiting switch an outgoing call from the subscriber on the remote telephone line;

15

retrieving, by the visiting switch from a second record in a second database, a user call feature set that defines call features available to the subscriber at the subscriber's home telephone line;

20 handling the outgoing call at the visiting switch in accordance with the call features as determined by the retrieved user call feature set.

6. The method according to claim 5 wherein the step of registering comprises receiving a request from the remote telephone line to establish the presence of the subscriber at the  
25 remote telephone line, retrieving from the first database the subscriber's call feature set, storing the retrieved subscriber's call feature set in the second record in the second database where the second record includes the first and second telephone numbers.

7. The method according to claim 6 wherein the step of registering further comprises  
30 storing the second telephone number in the first record in the first database.

8. The method according to claim 7 wherein the second telephone number is obtained from calling line information data associated with a call placed from the remote telephone line as part of the request.

9. A method for permitting a subscriber to register the subscriber's call feature set normally associated with a home telephone line for use at a remote telephone line, the method comprising the steps of:

5

receiving at a visiting switch a registration request on the remote telephone line;

transmitting a registration query from the visiting switch to a home switch that supports the subscriber's home telephone line, the registration query containing a telephone number

10

assigned to the subscriber's home telephone line;

receiving a reply message at the visiting switch from the home switch, the reply message containing the subscriber's call feature set;

15

storing the subscriber's call feature set in a record in a database accessible by the visiting switch, the stored record containing the telephone number assigned to the subscriber's home telephone line.

20

10. The method according to claim 9 wherein receiving the registration request comprises the receipt of dialed digits defining a predetermined special service code indicating a registration request.

25

11. The method according to claim 9 wherein receiving the registration request comprises receiving a telephone call at a predetermined telephone number that supports a special service function of registering the subscriber's call feature set with a visiting switch.

30

12. The method according to claim 9 further comprising the steps of transmitting another registration query from the home switch to a home database in response to receipt of said registration query, receiving another reply message at the home switch from the home database where the another reply message contains the subscriber's call feature set, and transmitting the subscriber's call feature set as said reply message from the home switch to the visiting switch.

13. The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of handling the incoming call at the visiting switch further comprises transferring the incoming call to a voice messaging system upon determining that the remote telephone line of the called subscriber is busy.
- 5 14. The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of handling the incoming call at the visiting switch further comprises transferring the incoming call to a voice messaging system upon a no answer condition of the remote telephone line being determined.